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FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1250  
INFO RUEHZA/WhA CENTRAL AMERICAN COLLECTIVE  
RUEHBW/AMEMBASSY BELGRADE 0002  
RUEHPS/AMEMBASSY PRISTINA 0012

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN SALVADOR 000562

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 06/19/2019  
TAGS: PGOV PREL ES KV  
SUBJECT: MFA STUDYING KOSOVO RECOGNITION

REF: A. STATE 62529 (NOTAL)  
¶B. SAN SALVADOR 556

Classified By: Charge d'Affaires, for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d)

¶1. (C) PolCouns raised reftel points with Foreign Minister Hugo Martinez June 17, noting that then VP-select Salvador Sanchez Ceren and PARLACEN Deputy Jose Luis Merino had reportedly told former U.S. Ambassador to El Salvador Walker the GOES would recognize Kosovo after President Funes' inauguration June 1. Martinez said that while Sanchez Ceren and Merino may well have told Walker the GOES was ready to recognize Pristina, no decision has yet been made. MFA, he said, is studying the issue and has no firm timeline for making a decision, though he did suggest it would not languish.

¶2. (C) Comment: Even before the Funes Administration took office, we raised this issue with Martinez. He seems sympathetic to our arguments, but recognizes Pristina is overshadowed in the early days of this Administration by regional and hemispheric diplomacy, plus the need to fill key positions, both here and overseas.

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